(b) The scientific benefits will be in understanding the formation and evolution of the Moon by collecting new data on distribution of elements such as thorium, uranium and potassium on the lunar surface through high energy spectroscopy, investigation of the cometary matter on the Moon, prospecting the Moon for helium and studying the lunar interior.

(c) Yes, Sir. India's Polar Satellite Launch Vehicle (PSLV) has the capability to send a spacecraft to the Moon.

(d) The lunar mission is still under preliminary examination.

Launching of PSLV

2449. SHRI PRAFULL GORADIA : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether PSLV has so far been launched by the ISRO;

(b) if so, why it plans to transfer the entire technology for manufacturing and launching PSLVs to an India entrepreneur;

(c) whether any Indian entrepreneur has made any offer for this technology; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SMALL SCALE INDUSTRIES, AGRO AND RURAL INDUSTRIES, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF PERSONNEL AND TRAINING, DEPARTMENT OF PENSIONS AND PENSIONERS' WELFARE OF THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF ATOMIC ENERGY AND SPACE (SHRIMATI VASUNDHARA RAJE) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) As a matter of policy, ISRO has been using Indian Industry for manufacturing of sub-systems and assembly operation, as far as possible. Currently, a number of sub-systems and propellants used are being supplied by the Indian industry. In the PSLV continuation phase, ISRO intends to increase the role of industries further. This

approach is keeping in line with ISRO's philosophy of concentrating the internal resources for work on hitech R & D activities, system engineering and management at ISRO, while routine, large scale manufacturing are entrusted to Industry.

(c) and (d) No, Sir. ISRO is in the preliminary phase of discussions with potential industries.

Special fund to MPs of cyclone attached areas of Orissa

2450. SHRI RAM CHANDRA KHUNTIA: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have any proposal to give special fund to the Cyclone affected area Member of Parliament of Orissa;

(b) whether it is fact that the usual MPLADS fund of Member of Parliament for the year of 1998 and 1999 has not yet been released by the Government; and

(c) if so, when the Government could release the MPLAD fund for the year of 1998 and 1999?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF STATISTICS AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF ADMINISTRATIVE REFORMS AND PUBLIC GRIEVANCES OF THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS (SHRI ARUN SHOURIE): (a) There is no proposal in this Ministry to give special fund as MPLADS fund to the cyclone affected area of Orissa.

(b) and (c) Funds are released on receipt of expenditure statement in respect of each MP from the concerned District Collectors/Deputy Commissioners showing the unsanctioned balance of less than Rs. 50 lakhs. Accordingly, MPLADS funds for the year 1998-99 and 1999-2000 have been released in all the eligible cases. In the case of remaining MPs funds will be released on receipt of expenditure statement showing the unsanctioned balance less than Rs. 50 lakhs.